

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Texans are no strangers to the threats and devastation that hurricanes can bring to our households, neighborhoods, and local economies. For generations, we have faced the extreme and overwhelming power of these storms, from the Great Galveston Storm in 1900, which took thousands of lives, to modern storms like Hurricanes Rita, Ike, and Harvey, which caused the deaths of hundreds of Texans and cost our state an estimated \$125 billion in damages.

As Texas moves into the fun-filled summer months, we must remember that with the joys of our warmweather season also come the dangers of hurricane season, which puts Texas' coastal and inland communities at a greater risk of hurricanes from June through November.

There are many ways individual Texans, communities, and state agencies can prepare themselves, their families, and their employees for hurricane season. First steps should include identifying hurricane-prone areas, floodplains, and evacuation zones, while also developing an evacuation plan that contains sources of information about evacuation orders and ways to stay in touch with loved ones. It is also important to assemble disaster supplies such as food and water, prescriptions, flashlights, phone chargers, and batteries; determine insurance coverage; prepare and brace residences for hurricane-force winds; and check in on vulnerable neighbors. Remember, there are no substitutes for having a well-prepared emergency plan in place when severe weather strikes, and all Texans should take steps to prepare their property and communities for the upcoming hurricane season.

Each May, state agencies, organizations, and communities across our state and nation set aside a week to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for hurricane season and the threat of these life-threatening forces of nature. During this time, individuals should prepare their property and communities for the upcoming hurricane season; state agencies should review and update their hurricane preparedness plans; and municipalities, counties, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, the Texas Education Agency, the Office of the Comptroller, the Texas Department of Insurance, and the Department of State Health Services shall conduct community outreach and education activities on hurricane preparedness.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to remain mindful of the dangers presented by hurricanes, stay informed about current threats, and take steps to create or update their own hurricane preparedness plan. By being aware of and prepared for hurricanes, we can create a safer future for the Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2022, to be

## Hurricane Preparedness Week



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 28th day of April, 2022.

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Governor of Texas